DC
SUPERMAN
IN ACTION COMICS
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1998
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IMMONEN • WILLIAMS • MARZAN, JR. • J. PALMIOTTI

1080° TenEighty SNOWBOARDING

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EVERYONE E ESRB

NINTENDO 64

GET N or get out™

THE EXPERTS WOULD HAVE AGREED THAT IF YOU TRIED TO DO HALF THE STUFF IN 1080° SNOWBOARDING ON NINTENDO® 64 FOR REAL, YOU WOULDN'T BE AROUND TO BRAG ABOUT IT.

ROCKETED AS A BABY FROM THE EXPLODING PLANET OF KRYPTON, KAL-EL GREW TO MANHOOD ON EARTH-- WHOSE YELLOW SUN AND LIGHTER GRAVITY GAVE HIM FANTASTIC SUPER-POWERS! IN THE CITY OF METROPOLIS, HE POSES AS MILD-MANNERED NEWSMAN CLARK KENT-- BUT BATTLES EVIL ALL OVER EARTH-- AND BEYOND-- AS--
SUPERMAN
Created by JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER
POLYESTER YEAR
PART 1
READY, FIRE, AIM
KRENCH!
GREAT RAO, PEOPLE--
--GET OFF THE BRIDGE!
STUART IMMONEN - writer
ANTHONY WILLIAMS - guest penciller
JOSÉ MARZAN, JR. AND JIMMY PALMIOTTI - inkers
BILL OAKLEY - letterer
GLENN WHITMORE - colorist
DIGITAL CHAMELEON - separations
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JOEY CAVALIERI - wayback machine

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DC COMICS
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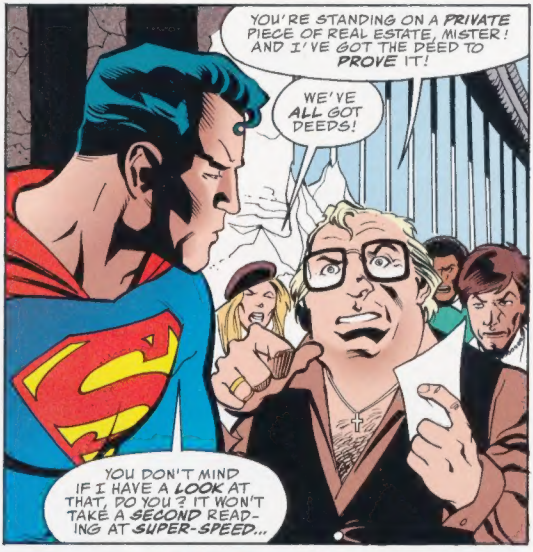
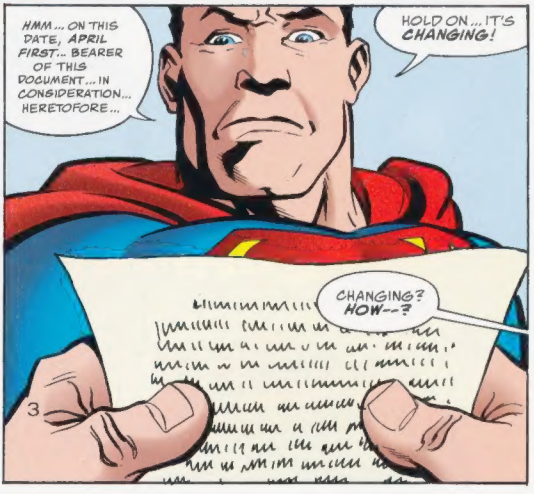
75 YEARS
DC COMICS
ENTERTAINING THE WORLD

YOU HEARD HIM --GET OFF!
IT'S MINE AND I'M STAYING!
HEY, MAN, YOU GET OFF! NOTHIN'S GONNA MAKE ME MOVE!
MINE!
GET REAL!
SHUT UP, CLAIMJUMPER!
PEOPLE, PLEASE! THE STRUCTURE ISN'T SAFE! YOU ALL HAVE TO--
I'M TELLING YOU ONCE, HAMMERHEAD-- THE QUEENSLAND BRIDGE BELONGS TO ME!
I BOUGHT IT LAST WEEK!
YOU'RE GONNA BUY IT, PAL!
ME!
I'M RUNNING OUT OF TIME--
--MUST INHALE-- FILL MY LUNGS TO CAPACITY WITH WATER VAPOR FROM HOB'S BAY--
--AND WITH A BLAST OF SUPER-BREATH--

"-- PUT THIS ARGUMENT ON ICE."

NOW, WHO'S GOING TO STEP UP AND EXPLAIN THIS TO ME, HMMM?
THE QUEENSLAND BRIDGE IS A THOROUGHFARE--THERE'S NO PEDESTRIAN ACCESS! YOU'RE OBSTRUCTING PUBLIC PROPERTY!
NOT ANY-MORE!


YOU'RE STANDING ON A PRIVATE PIECE OF REAL ESTATE, MISTER! AND I'VE GOT THE DEED TO PROVE IT!
WE'VE ALL GOT DEEDS!
YOU DON'T MIND IF I HAVE A LOOK AT THAT, DO YOU? IT WON'T TAKE A SECOND READ-ING AT SUPER-SPEED...


HMM... ON THIS DATE, APRIL FIRST... BEARER OF THIS DOCUMENT... IN CONSIDERATION... HERETOFORE...
HOLD ON... IT'S CHANGING!
CHANGING? HOW--?

LET IT BE KNOWN ON THIS DATE OF APRIL FIRST, 1977, THE BEARER OF THIS DOCUMENT SHALL BE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE IN CONSIDERATION OF PAYMENT OF THE SUM OF ONE THOUSAND UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT DOLLARS, THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS QUEENSLAND BRIDGE, INCLUDING PORTIONS OF THE BOROUGHS OF QUEENSLAND PARK AND NEW TROY, WHERE SAID STRUCTURE FALLS WITHIN SURVEYED LOT LINES.
4/1/77
Date
MOST OF THE LETTERS ARE FADING AWAY--
--REVEALING A NONE-TOO-SUBTLE MESSAGE.
"HERE YOU GO, SUCKER"?! WHA--? BUT...!
IT'S OBVIOUSLY A DECEPTION OF SOME KIND-- WHERE DID YOU GET THIS "DEED"?
FROM -- FROM THE AD...
THE BILLBOARDS WENT UP A WEEK AGO... IT SOUNDED HONEST...
the REAL estate DEAL of the DECADE!
the QUEENSLAND SPAN can be yours, MAN!
CALL 555-REAL
CAVEAT EMPTOR, FRIEND. IN THE FUTURE, A "SPAN" IS ALSO A NINE-INCH LENGTH, THE SIZE OF YOUR OTHERWISE WORTHLESS PIECE OF PAPER.
SELLING THE QUEENSLAND BRIDGE IS THE OLDEST TRICK IN THE BOOK--
--AND I THINK I KNOW WHO THE TRICKSTER IS...

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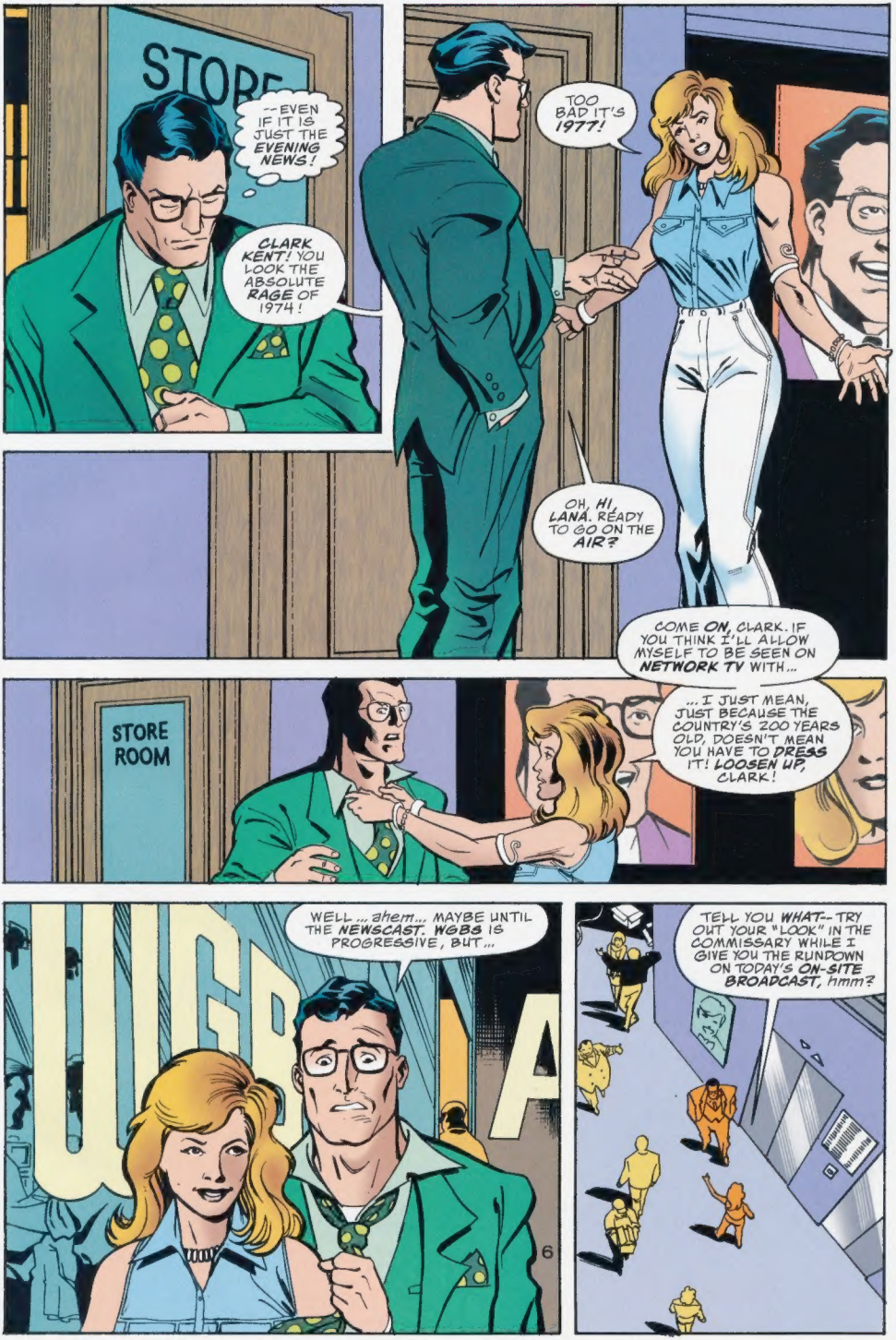
...AFTER ALL, IT'S HIS TIME OF YEAR.
AND HE'S JUST SICK ENOUGH TO USE EXPLOSIVES TO MAKE HIS POINT.
JUST MAKE A MENTAL NOTE OF THIS PHONE NUMBER, AND--
--WHOOPS!--LOOKS LIKE IT'LL HAVE TO WAIT--I'M DUE AT WORK.
CBS
OR RATHER, CLARK KENT IS!
THOUGH IT MIGHT SOUND A TRIFLE HOARY, IN THE AGE OF HIGH FIDELITY STEREO AND AEROSOL FOOD--
--THE SHOW MUST GO ON--
5


STORE
--EVEN IF IT IS JUST THE EVENING NEWS!
CLARK KENT! YOU LOOK THE ABSOLUTE RAGE OF 1974!
TOO BAD IT'S 1977!
OH, HI, LANA. READY TO GO ON THE AIR?
COME ON, CLARK. IF YOU THINK I'LL ALLOW MYSELF TO BE SEEN ON NETWORK TV WITH...
...I JUST MEAN, JUST BECAUSE THE COUNTRY'S 200 YEARS OLD, DOESN'T MEAN YOU HAVE TO DRESS IT! LOOSEN UP, CLARK!
STORE ROOM
WELL... ahem... MAYBE UNTIL THE NEWSCAST. WGBS IS PROGRESSIVE, BUT...
TELL YOU WHAT-- TRY OUT YOUR "LOOK" IN THE COMMISSARY WHILE I GIVE YOU THE RUNDOWN ON TODAY'S ON-SITE BROADCAST, hmm?
6

Yabba Dabba Doom.

The Dark Knight now on

CARTOON NETWORK

Batman™: The Animated Series Weeknights at 6 PM (ET/PT).

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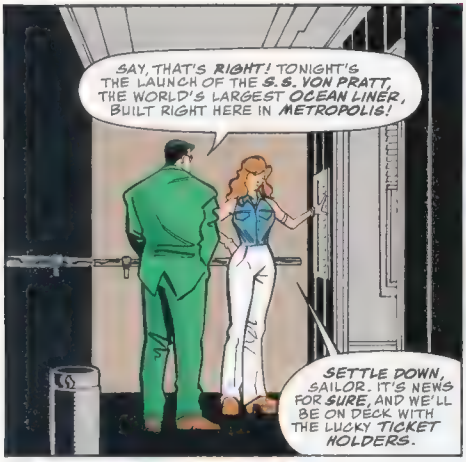

SAY, THAT'S RIGHT! TONIGHT'S THE LAUNCH OF THE S.S. VON PRATT, THE WORLD'S LARGEST OCEAN LINER, BUILT RIGHT HERE IN METROPOLIS!
SETTLE DOWN, SAILOR. IT'S NEWS FOR SURE, AND WE'LL BE ON DECK WITH THE LUCKY TICKET HOLDERS.

YOU KNOW, THAT REMINDS ME--
:ahem:
HI, LOIS. HOW'S THE NEWSPAPER GAME'S TOP MS.?

HELLO, LANA... CLARK. I SEE YOUR BRAINS HAVEN'T YET SUCCUMBED TO ATROPHY FROM WORKING IN TV.
I SUPPOSE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE BIG TO-DO ON THE QUEENSLAND BRIDGE THIS AFTERNOON--?
SEEMS OSWALD LOOMIS "SOLD" IT TO A BUNCH OF PATSIES AT A GRAND A POP.
LOOMIS? THE PRANKSTER?

YEAH, CAN YOU BELIEVE IT? THEY PLANTED THEMSELVES RIGHT ON THE CAUSEWAY AND WOULDN'T BUDGE, EVEN WHEN A BOMB NEARLY DESTROYED THE BRIDGE!
THEY WOULDN'T EVEN MOVE FOR SUPERMAN.
WELL, MY COLUMN WAITS. BYE-BYE!

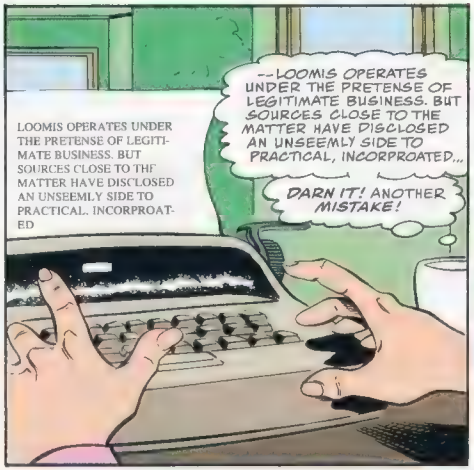
GOSH! HOW DID SHE GET THAT STORY SO FAST? SHE'S AMAZING!
I DUNNO, CLARK. SHE'S KIND OF... BOOKISH, DON'T YOU THINK? SO... UNFEMININE.

SHE EVEN MISPRONOUNCED "A TROPHY." SHE NEEDS A VOICE COACH AND SOME POISE LESSONS.
ANYWAY, FORGET HER. BUY YOU A CUP OF COFFEE?
SORRY, LANA. I JUST REMEMBERED SOMETHING I HAVE TO LOOK IN ON...

--LOOK, I TOLD YOU! IF I'D WANTED FAKE, I'D HAVE ASKED FOR FAKE!
NEXT TIME I DEAL WITH A REPUTABLE VOMIT MANUFACTURER!
TAK TAK
TAK TAK TAK
OH! AH... HA, HA... SUPERMAN!
WELL! DON'T STAND OUT THERE IN THE COLD! AH, WHAT I MEAN TO SAY IS...
...COME IN!
I'M HERE ABOUT TODAY'S PRANK, LOOMIS!

OH. OH. I'VE GIVEN UP BEING THE PRANKSTER, SUPERMAN! THAT WAS ONE OF THE TERMS OF MY PROBATION, YES?
I'M REHABILITATED! PRANKS ARE IN MY PAST!
A WHOOPEE CUSHION, LOOMIS?
YES... ah... ahem YOU KNOW HOW IT IS...
... DON'T YOU?
I KNOW YOU CAN'T HELP YOURSELF, PRANKSTER! YOU'RE SICK!
NOW WHAT ABOUT THE QUEENSLAND BRIDGE?
OH, YES... TERRIBLE BUSINESS, THAT. THOSE SUCKER--
--ah, PEOPLE-- COULD HAVE BEEN HURT!
LOOMIS, YOU SOLD THEM THE DEEDS!
CERTAINLY I DID, SUPERMAN! AND THAT MONEY'S GOING TO GOOD USE! BUT I NEVER-- ah, WAIT-- I'LL BET YOU HAVEN'T HEARD THE MESSAGE, HAVE YOU?

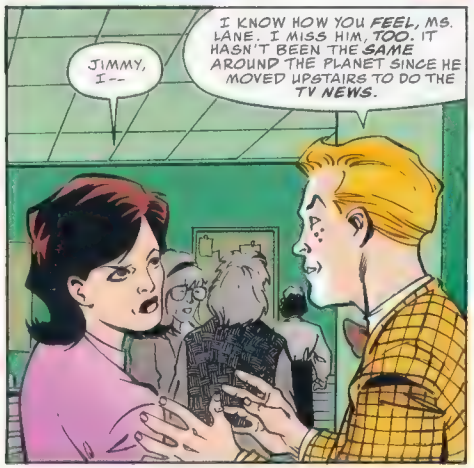
RUNCO
THIS IS WHAT MY, ah, CUSTOMERS HEARD WHEN THEY CALLED MY NUMBER...
IMAGINE YOURSELF ON THE QUEENSLAND BRIDGE, WITH THE MOST SPECTACULAR VIEW THE CITY HAS TO OFFER!
YOU COULD BE CHARGING TOLLS TO PASSING MOTORISTS, MAKING A MINT...
WELL, IT GOES ON. BUT AT NO TIME DID I MENTION SELLING THE BRIDGE, RIGHT?
"IMAGINE," I SAID. "COULD BE," I SAID. THEY GOT WHAT THEY PAID FOR.
AND MORE! THE PREVIEW OF MY PATENTED PRINTING PROCESS WAS ABSOLUTELY FREE!
SO THE CONTRACTS END UP NULL AND VOID. WHAT ABOUT THE FACT THAT THE BRIDGE EXPLODED? AND ALL ON THE FIRST OF APRIL?
THE NEWS IS SO FULL OF HEART-BREAKING STORIES, ISN'T IT, SUPERMAN?
TOO BAD THERE'S SO LITTLE PROOF.
I'LL BE BACK, PRANKSTER.
APRIL FOOL ON YOU, SUPERMAN. I'M OUT OF THE PRANK BUSINESS. I'M INTO ADVERTISING, NOW.
PLEASE TAKE MY CARD.
UNQUESTIONABLY. MAYBE YOU'D LIKE TO HEAR MY LATEST IDEA?
SEE, I THINK THAT PEOPLE WILL NOT ONLY PAY TO SEE ADVERTISING, THEY'LL WANT TO ADVERTISE THEMSELVES...
...EVEN IF THEY HAVE NOTHING TO SAY! I CALL IT: THE WORLD WIDE WEB! WHAT DO YOU THINK?

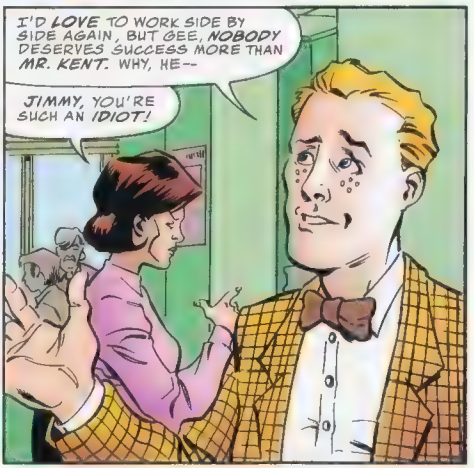

LOOMIS OPERATES UNDER THE PRETENSE OF LEGITIMATE BUSINESS. BUT SOURCES CLOSE TO THE MATTER HAVE DISCLOSED AN UNSEEMLY SIDE TO PRACTICAL, INCORPROATED...
--LOOMIS OPERATES UNDER THE PRETENSE OF LEGITIMATE BUSINESS. BUT SOURCES CLOSE TO THE MATTER HAVE DISCLOSED AN UNSEEMLY SIDE TO PRACTICAL, INCORPROATED...
DARN IT! ANOTHER MISTAKE!

SHAPE UP, LOIS LANE! YOU'RE A PROFESSIONAL, RIGHT? A THOROUGHLY MODERN MS.?

Daily Planet
SUPERMAN SAVES CITY
FULL REPORT INSIDE FROM LOIS LANE AND CLARK KENT
THEN WHY DOES HE SEEM THE IDEAL MAN?

THINKING ABOUT MR. KENT AGAIN, MS. LANE?
?


JIMMY, I--
I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, MS. LANE. I MISS HIM, TOO. IT HASN'T BEEN THE SAME AROUND THE PLANET SINCE HE MOVED UPSTAIRS TO DO THE TV NEWS.


I'D LOVE TO WORK SIDE BY SIDE AGAIN, BUT GEE, NOBODY DESERVES SUCCESS MORE THAN MR. KENT. WHY, HE--
JIMMY, YOU'RE SUCH AN IDIOT!

SO, CAPTAIN LUDVIK, FROM THE SOUND OF IT, YOU NEED TO BE A GENIUS TO DRIVE THIS BOAT!
:hrrmph: SHIP, MY DEAR. SAIL THE SHIP.
RIGHT. AND WHERE WILL THE ...SHIP DOCK EVENTUALLY?
AFTER A BRIEF CALL AT THE PORT OF ST. JOHN'S, WE TRAVEL NON-STOP TO PARIS, FRANCE.
OH, NOWHERE ELSE?
NOT THIS TRIP, MS. LANG.
I GUESS THAT'S IT, THEN. TOO BAD CLARK DIDN'T MAKE IT FOR THE TAPING...
S.S VON PRATT
"... BUT I GUESS HE'D HAVE TO BE SUPERMAN TO GET THROUGH ALL THIS!"
12
13

"The first Batman game worth bragging about."
- PSM

"...Batman has finally arrived in style."
- Ultra Game Players

"The graphics are phenomenal, and the capes and environments need to be seen to be believed."
- Game Informer

"BATMAN & ROBIN looks spectacular."
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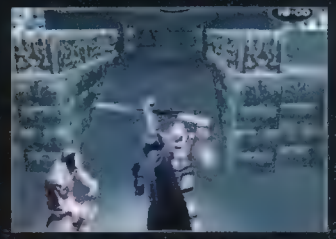

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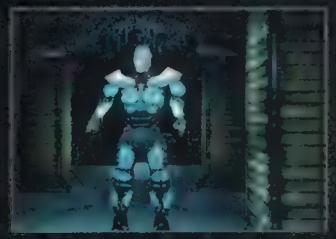

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Acclaim
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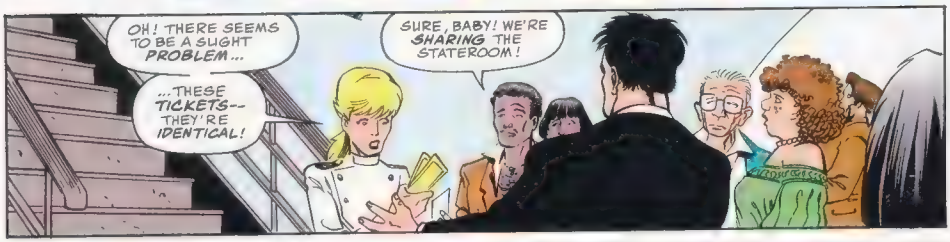
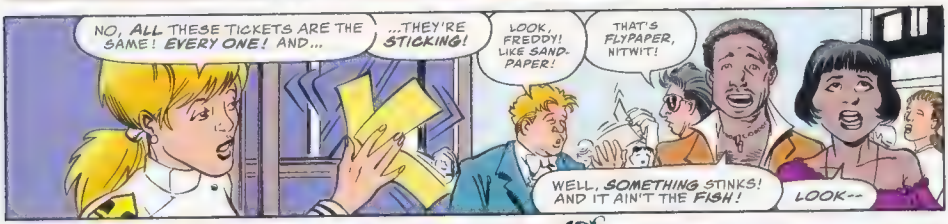
"BUT WHERE COULD HE BE?"
ALL EVIDENCE POINTS TO THE PRANKSTER'S INVOLVEMENT-- ONLY I'VE GOT NOTHING LEGAL TO HANG IT ON.
I JUST HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL HE MAKES HIS NEXT MOVE--
RINNG
HELLO?
CLARK! YOU MORON!
OH, HELLO, JOSH.
HELLO? HELLO?!
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE AT THE SHIPYARD WITH LANA! WHY ARE YOU HOME TALKING TO ME?
THE VON PRATT'S PROBABLY HALFWAY TO PARIS RIGHT NOW--
PARIS?
--AND YOU'RE MAKING SMALL TALK WITH YOUR PRODUCER! MY KEISTER'S ON THE LINE HERE, CLARK!
WELL, SAY SOMETHING!
Oswald Loomis et l'ange
Paris Office S.V.P.
I'VE GOT TO GO...
WHOOSH!
YOU'RE DARN RIGHT! HELLO?
HELLO?!

LOOKS LIKE YOU TWO ARE THE FIRST TO BOARD CONGRATULATIONS.
GRACIAS, BABY! I BET SHE DIDN'T EVEN KNOW WE WERE MARRIED THIS MORNING, eh, MARY?
OH, BARRY! HUSH!


OH! THERE SEEMS TO BE A SLIGHT PROBLEM...
...THESE TICKETS-- THEY'RE IDENTICAL!
SURE, BABY! WE'RE SHARING THE STATEROOM!


NO, ALL THESE TICKETS ARE THE SAME! EVERY ONE! AND...
...THEY'RE STICKING!
LOOK, FREDDY! LIKE SAND-PAPER!
THAT'S FLYPAPER, NITWIT!
WELL, SOMETHING STINKS! AND IT AIN'T THE FISH!
LOOK--

--IT'S SUPERMAN!

it pays to ASK Y

Okay, since you asked...now, when you drink Yoo-hoo®, you get to enjoy America's favorite chocolate drink, and get some Outrageous Loot. Just collect the UPC Points (see sample) from Yoo-hoo 9 oz. and 15.5 oz. bottles only. Pick what you want from this page. Then fill out and return the order form. If, for some lame reason, you couldn't save all the required points, you can buy up to 1/2 the points you need for just 25¢ per point. See order form for specific details. That's it. That's all. That's Y.

Yoo-hoo Cap

Yoo-hoo Towels

Yoo-hoo Bandanna

Yoo-hoo Lunch Pack

Yoo-hoo Sunglasses

Yoo-hoo Watch

can we take your order please?

Item	Size	Quantity you want	x	UPC points per item	=	Total UPC points
Yoo-hoo Bandanna			x	10		
Yoo-hoo Towel			x	20		
Yoo-hoo Boxers (L or XL)			x	40		
Yoo-hoo T-shirt (L or XL)			x	50		
Yoo-hoo Cap			x	50		
Yoo-hoo "Watch" Watch			x	160		
TOTAL ITEMS			Total UPC Points Needed for Order			
			Total UPC Points Enclosed*			
			Additional Points Needed*		x $.25	$
			Total Shipping/Handling (enter total quantity of items from above)		x $2.00	$
			Total Dollar Payment Enclosed			$

*You must collect a minimum of 1/2 of the total points you need. Points you must collect are equal to 1 1/2 of the total points needed, but you can't buy more than what you collected.

Collect UPC points from Yoo-hoo 9 oz bottles and 15½ oz bottles (Offer not valid on 6 oz. drink boxes, drink box multi packs, 11 oz. cans or any other Yoo-hoo product.) Note: you can't redeem more than 40% points per order. Ours or household. Complete and return the order form to receive your Outrageous loot.

0 000000 0
Sample UPC

Please print (write in capital letters)

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____

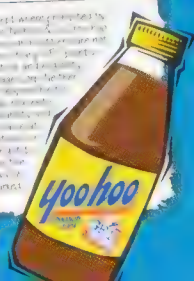
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Age _____

Daytime Phone Number _____

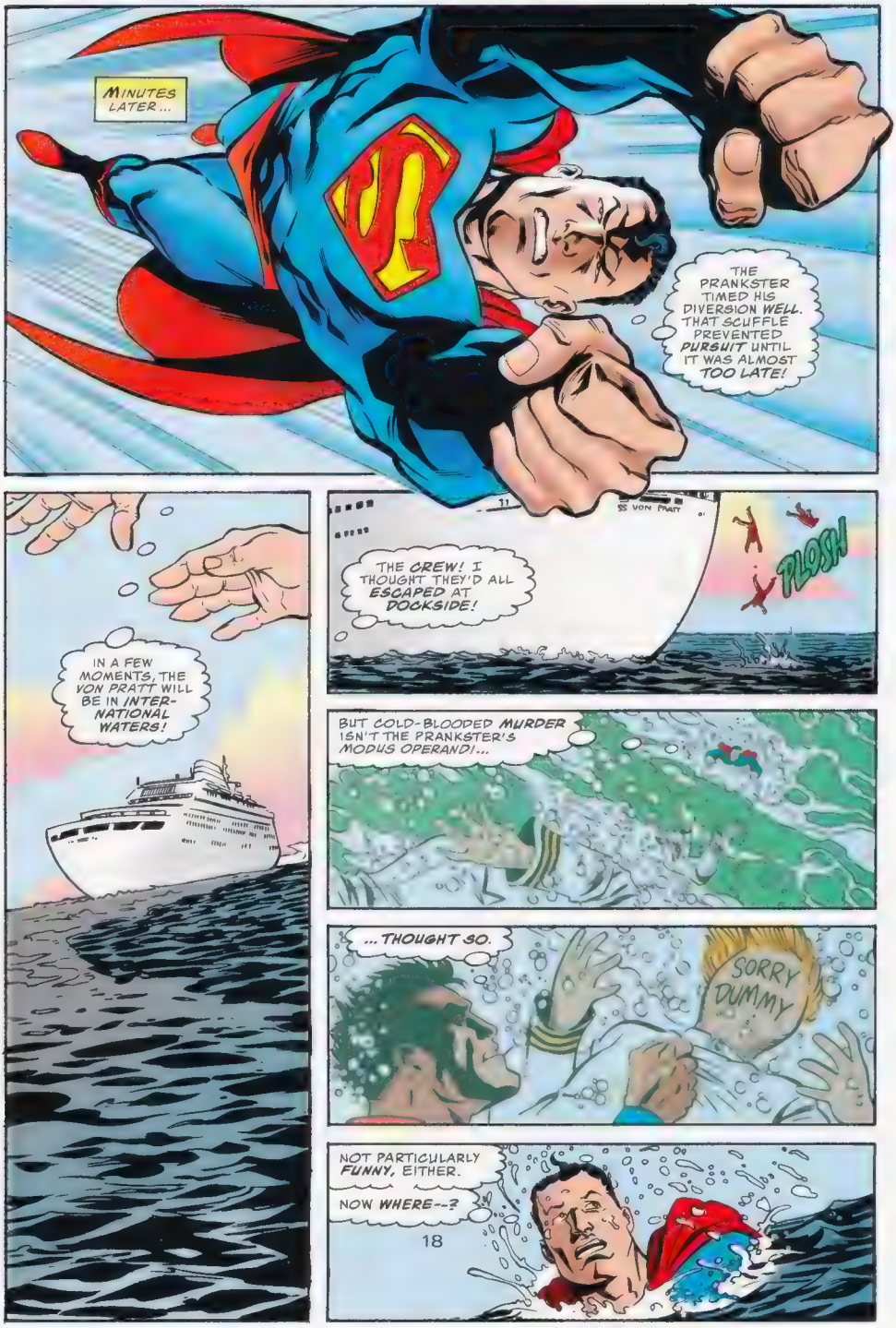
Please send the appropriated item(s) with appropriate number of UPC points and a check or money order made payable to Yoo-hoo Ask Y Loot, P.O. Box 8441, New Milford, CT 06776-8441. Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

Offer [illegible] the 48 contiguous United States and Canada (except where prohibited by law or regulation). If you are under eighteen (18) years of age, you must have your parent or guardian complete the order form. Yoo-hoo Chocolate Beverage Co., its subsidiaries, affiliates, agencies and employees are not responsible for [illegible] Offer void where prohibited, taxed, restricted, or limited by law. All applicable laws and regulations apply. Limit one redemption per household. Yoo-hoo Chocolate Beverage Co. reserves the right to substitute merchandise of equal or greater value for any item described herein. Yoo-hoo Chocolate Beverage Co. reserves the right to withdraw or modify this offer at any time without notice. Yoo-hoo Chocolate Beverage Co. reserves the right to terminate this program without prior notice. Yoo-hoo Chocolate Beverage Co. is not responsible for lost, late, misdirected or illegible requests. Yoo-hoo Chocolate Beverage Co. reserves the right not to return any points submitted. Points submitted become the property of Yoo-hoo Chocolate Beverage Co. and will not be returned. Please allow [illegible] for processing. Void where prohibited by law. [illegible]



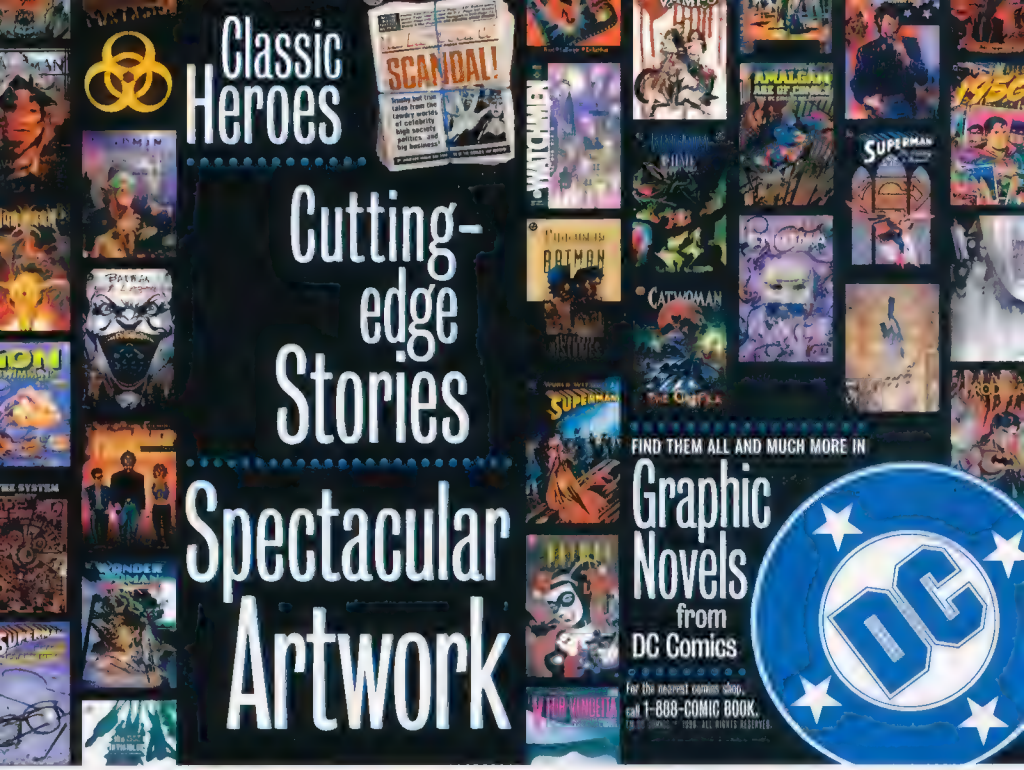
uh-oh! THE HEAT!
TIME TO SPLIT, I'D WAGER!
EVERYONE SETTLE DOWN! LET'S FIND OUT WHAT THE PROBLEM IS...
S.S. VON PRATT
INTERVIEW'S OVER, SON!
PAK!
UNH!
WHA-- CAPTAIN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HA HA!
WHAT I WAS BORN TO DO!
THE PRANKSTER!
HELP!
HEY! THE VON PRATT'S PULLING AWAY!
I WANT A REFUND!
SUPERMAN! DO SOMETHING!
WAIT! UNSTICK MY TICKET FIRST!
WHOOOO WHOOOO
WAIT! I HAVE MY TICKET! I MUST BOARD! WAIT!

TIME AND TIDE WAIT FOR NO MAN, MISTER!
WAAAIIIT!
SPLI'SH!
WHAT ARE YOU, A WISEGUY?
THOUGHT YOU COULD TAKE WHAT WE'RE ALL SUPPOSED TO HAVE? HUH?
SAY, NOW--!
WELL, TAKE THIS!
KRAK!
NIMROD!
--I WON'T PERMIT THIS!
HOOLIGAN!
I DEMAND RECOMPENSE!
REGGIO! KOLINSKI! FAN LEFT! WITH SUPERMAN'S HELP, WE CAN STOP THIS FROM BECOMING A RIOT!


MINUTES LATER...
THE PRANKSTER TIMED HIS DIVERSION WELL. THAT SCUFFLE PREVENTED PURSUIT UNTIL IT WAS ALMOST TOO LATE!
IN A FEW MOMENTS, THE VON PRATT WILL BE IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS!
SS VON PRATT
THE CREW! I THOUGHT THEY'D ALL ESCAPED AT DOCKSIDE!
PLOSH!
BUT COLD-BLOODED MURDER ISN'T THE PRANKSTER'S MODUS OPERANDI...
...THOUGHT SO.
SORRY DUMMY
NOT PARTICULARLY FUNNY, EITHER.
NOW WHERE--?

THAT SICK FIEND! HE'S CUT THE ENGINES!
AND ON A COLLISION COURSE WITH THAT ICEBERG!
STILL, I ALWAYS SAY...
...THERE'S NOTHING A GOOD TURN WON'T CURE!
THANKS FOR THE LIFT, SUPERMAN! BUT I CAN'T AFFORD ANOTHER RAISE!
STOWAWAYS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON THIS VESSEL--
--I'M AFRAID YOU MUST BE FORCIBLY EJECTED!
WHUUSSHH!

New
Great Taste
More
Golden Color
CAP'N
CRUNCH
New Great Taste!



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unnh... THE ICEBERG... HOLLOW? AND...
...NOT ICE...
...SUGAR!
HEE HEE! WHAT CAN I THAY? I'VE GOT A THWEET TOOTH!
WHOOSH
BESIDES, I WAS SICK OF ALL THAT SALT IN THE OCEAN--
PRANKSTER-- SHUT UP!
KRANG!

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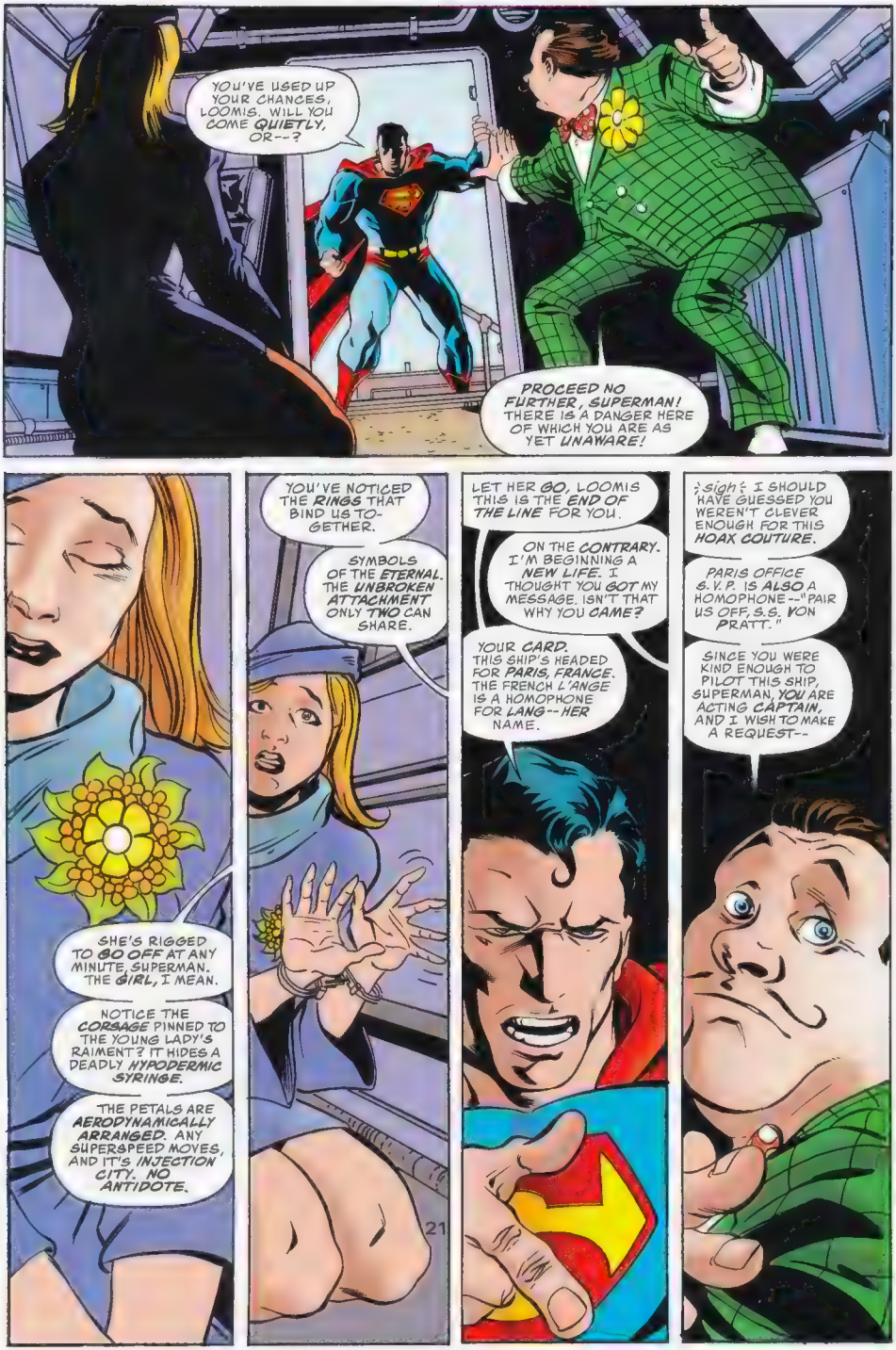
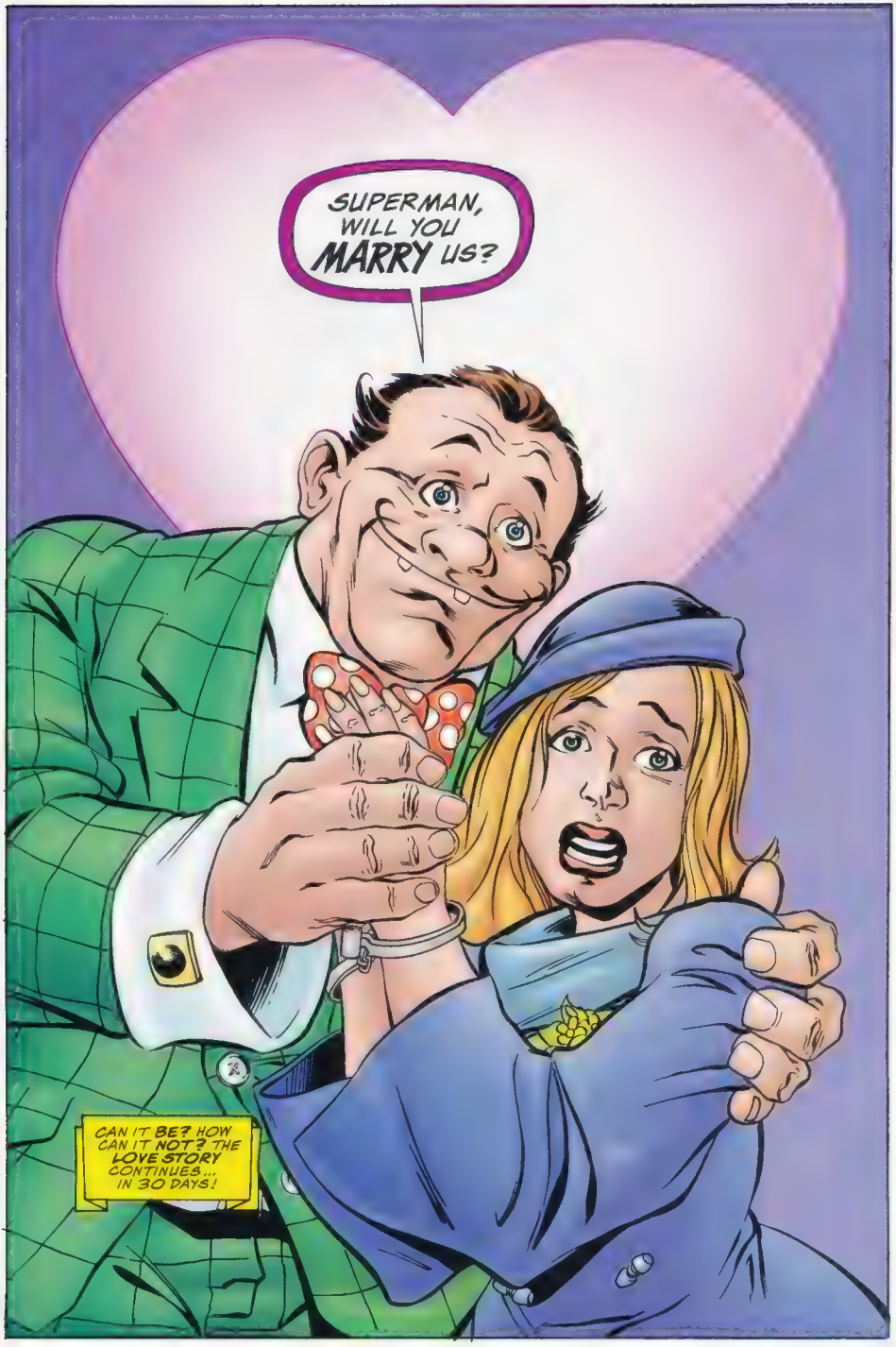

YOU'VE USED UP YOUR CHANCES, LOOMIS. WILL YOU COME QUIETLY, OR--?
PROCEED NO FURTHER, SUPERMAN! THERE IS A DANGER HERE OF WHICH YOU ARE AS YET UNAWARE!
SHE'S RIGGED TO GO OFF AT ANY MINUTE, SUPERMAN. THE GIRL, I MEAN.
NOTICE THE CORSAGE PINNED TO THE YOUNG LADY'S RAIMENT? IT HIDES A DEADLY HYPODERMIC SYRINGE.
THE PETALS ARE AERODYNAMICALLY ARRANGED. ANY SUPERSPEED MOVES, AND IT'S INJECTION CITY. NO ANTIDOTE.
YOU'VE NOTICED THE RINGS THAT BIND US TO-GETHER.
SYMBOLS OF THE ETERNAL. THE UNBROKEN ATTACHMENT ONLY TWO CAN SHARE.
LET HER GO, LOOMIS! THIS IS THE END OF THE LINE FOR YOU.
ON THE CONTRARY. I'M BEGINNING A NEW LIFE. I THOUGHT YOU GOT MY MESSAGE. ISN'T THAT WHY YOU CAME?
YOUR CARD. THIS SHIP'S HEADED FOR PARIS, FRANCE. THE FRENCH L'ANGE IS A HOMOPHONE FOR LANG--HER NAME.
;sigh; I SHOULD HAVE GUESSED YOU WEREN'T CLEVER ENOUGH FOR THIS HOAX COUTURE.
PARIS OFFICE S.V.P. IS ALSO A HOMOPHONE --"PAIR US OFF, S.S. VON PRATT."
SINCE YOU WERE KIND ENOUGH TO PILOT THIS SHIP, SUPERMAN, YOU ARE ACTING CAPTAIN, AND I WISH TO MAKE A REQUEST--


SUPERMAN, WILL YOU MARRY US?
CAN IT BE? HOW CAN IT NOT? THE LOVE STORY CONTINUES... IN 30 DAYS!

RE: ACTION

DC COMICS
1700 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY
10019

ACTION COMICS #740

Hi, all. Well, we've got Superman straightened out (sorta), but we're still dealing with comments regarding the "new" Superman, particularly in ACTION #740...

Dear Re:Action (re ACTION COMICS #740):

I thought there was a great feel to this story when reading it. The combination of Stuart Immonen's stylish art with his mysterious, spooky story made for a great read. I guess I should thank Stuart, because he practically does the whole book. What a guy.

Anyway, the mysterious story about the Ripper was just what the doctor ordered so close to Halloween. I like the approach Immonen is taking in dealing with the Ripper, which is sort of what Steven Spielberg did in the movie *Jaws*—never show the whole monster in the beginning of the film (or, in this case, the beginning of the comic). I still don't know what the Ripper looks like, and this aspect builds up the playability of the Ripper as being a real challenge for Superman. From what I did see of him, though, he sure does look capable of handling himself in dealing with Superman.

I also liked the little bit of irony in this issue, when Superman saved the truck and said how he's finally beginning to master his new powers. However, just as Superman is becoming more comfortable with himself, it's the public he saves that's becoming increasingly *less* comfortable with him. The trucker wondering just who the heck that guy in the strange getup was, and having Turpin explain that Superman has to prove to the public he's still the same hero he used to be, were nice pieces of writing that I wish I saw more of during this Man of Energy epic.

Last but not least, we had a cliffhanger ending—Superman versus a samurai. It's different, I'll give you that; anybody seen Superman versus a samurai before? Well, I'm interested, and I can't wait until next week, with the death of Mr. Mxyzptlk.

WILDSTAR D
POSTED ON AMERICA ONLINE

Leave it to Stuart to always give ya something different, Wildstar. We think that's one of his greatest strengths: he gives his stories—even ones with a more common theme—a slant that makes them fresh and new. He continues to amaze everyone here at Superman H.Q. just how quickly he's matured as a storyteller, and he's got plenty more adventures to tell.

Of course, let's not forget José Marzan, Jr., whose inks have constantly elevated Stuart's art to a class of their own. Stuart and José do indeed produce a good portion of the comic, but the book is well-rounded in every aspect, when you consider Bill Oakley's lettering, Glenn Whitmore's coloring and Digital Chameleon's separations. It's nothin' but the best, from top to bottom!

Dear Re:Action:

I'm writing about Superman's not-so-recent change from the Man of Steel to the Man of Energy. Maybe the Man Beyond Tomorrow's change is because of Scorn's presence. If Scorn gets his own title and moves out of Metropolis, maybe New Blue will go back to what's normal for him.

Another reason for Supes's change could be revealed in ACTION #687 (this was brought to my attention by good friend Jason Bodin; I can't take *all* the credit). The Eradicator was energy, right? When he stuck his hand into Big Blue's dead body, maybe he transferred the energy to Superman's body, and it took a while to fight past his immune system. Or maybe that energy caused Superman's resurrection. Hmmm...

GAVIN BUSH
PORTAL, NORTH DAKOTA

P.S. Love that art! Keep up the good work!
P.P.S. I've heard rumors that Superman's suit and powers are changing again in the near future. Are these true? Will the changes be another publicity stunt, or will they go back to normal?

Well, Gavin, you were right. Superman's powers did change—back to normal, so we guess the way his powers changed isn't really worth discussing anymore, right?

No. No, we didn't quite believe us, either. Tell ya what—just take this month's Baldy award for coming up with some fine theories and for not being as nitpicky as our next reader...

Dear Editors (re ACTION #740):

Superman's "rescue" of the overturned 18-wheeler certainly was different. So far as I could tell, the only problem it posed was blocking rush-hour traffic. Annoying, sure, but hardly worth taking extreme measures to alleviate. His calm response to the situation?

Detonate a kerosene truck! Most motorists, I think, would rather cope with snarled traffic than be at Ground Zero on the freeway for one of Superman's unique experiments. Yeah, he'll clear up the snarl all right—by blowing everyone off the map! Good thing no one had a dead battery, or our hero would be looking for fissionable plutonium to fix 'em right up.

Clark seemed slightly annoyed that Perry had given "his" assignment to another *Planet* co-worker. I guess, since Clark had just been kidnapped by aliens, Perry felt he might be slightly delayed. After all, he was late the other 637 times he used that excuse. What I found amusing was seeing the *Planet* staff watching breaking news stories on TV. Well, considering finances are tight, I guess this method saves on sending investigative reporters on assignments. The only drawback is TV news anchors talk so fast, it's actually hard to accurately transcribe the bulletins word for word. Thankfully, they don't have that problem while copying stories off the Internet.

Wouldn't Clark have had better luck in conveying his concern to the grieving family at the police station as Superman rather than as a reporter? Actually, using a little resourcefulness, he could have posed as a census taker. Acting serious and looking at his notepad, all he had to do was ask the tearful trio if there were any changes in the number of family members in, oh, the last 24 hours and, if yes, to please explain.

Nice to see our hero has his unique "stealth capabilities"—in a darkened sewer! Still, I guess the fact that he was immaterial had some pluses: he wouldn't walk into walls or track sewage onto the clean streets of Metropolis.

Superman used his astounding spectra-vision to "see" electro-magnetic fields and microchanges in air density. Wouldn't a halfway decent flashlight have been more effective? Plus, since this is a giant monster we're talking about, perhaps he'd have been better off intently listening for the sounds of lip-smacking and the carnivorous creature saying, "Umm...nummy"?

The scenes in the dark were very effective, as we don't often have Superman being beaten by an unseen opponent. Of course, the monster had an unfair advantage since Clark was wearing his glow-in-the dark costume from the costume of SUPERMAN #123.

Finally, what's with the samurai on the third floor? He watches Superman vanish and reappear. Based on that alone, he vows to end his wave of "violence"? What is he—a lip reader? And pardon me for pointing it out, but he's wearing a pretty hefty sword. Unless he's headed to a ribbon-cutting ceremony, chances are he's prone to a bit of savagery himself.

JOE FRANK
SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA

*Deep down inside, Joe, aren't we **all** savages?*

Hmm...Looks like you weren't the only one asking about what Superman was up to in issue #740...

Dear Re:Action:

The one thing that bugged me about ACTION #740 was Superman's powers. One minute he's mastered certain aspects of them, the next he's pretty ineffectual with them.

For example, when Superman saved that truck, what in the world did he need the kerosene for? He's created magnetic fields outta "thin air" several times in the last few months. Let's see, there was the last issue of MAN OF TOMORROW, where he saves that car (of course, that might have been a solid energy field, in which case he could have done the same thing in this issue). There was that ridiculous issue of SUPERMAN where he spent half the book saving a plane. Then there was that issue of JLA where he created two magnetic fields for the moon. He's done it enough times that he shouldn't be questioning whether he can create the fields or not.

In addition, this flight power of his needs to be clarified. He said he couldn't fly because of the accompanying thunderbolt, yet he's been seen "flying," not bolting before. And I'll reiterate: if he can manipulate magnetic fields, or even create them to levitate and move matter, why can't he do the same thing with his own body, thus effecting flight?

TONY (AV1275)
POSTED ON AMERICA ONLINE

Who's this you're talking about Tony? Superman? Our Superman has different kinds of powers and abilities, and he flies instead of "bolts." Sorry, you must be talking about someone else.

—Mike McAvennie
Glad we're back to red and blue.

COMING ATTRACTIONS:

NEXT WEEK: Everything old is new again—kinda, in MAN OF STEEL #80, which we're sure will be the smash hit of...1938? What's going on?! Sorry, silence is golden, but Louise Simonson, Jon Bogdanove and Dennis Janke'll give ya more info in seven days.

IN TWO WEEKS: This looks like a job for Superman's wife! That's right, folks, DC's goin' on a Girl Frenzy, and we're coming out with SUPERMAN: LOIS LANE #1, by Barbara Kesel, Amanda Conner and Jimmy Palmiotti! Join us in fourteen days, willya?

IN THREE WEEKS: SUPERMAN #136 gets ahead of itself—way, way ahead, as we enter the year 2999, and there's still a Man of Tomorrow! Dan Jurgens, Paul Ryan and Joe Rubinstein give us an idea of what's in store for us in twenty-one days!

IN FOUR WEEKS: We've polished off the Silver Age again in ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN #559, as well as another classic adventure. Join Karl Kesel, Jerry Ordway, Tom Grummett and Denis Rodier in twenty-eight days for the Man of Tomorrow *à la* yesterday!

IN FIVE WEEKS: We head back to the seventies in ACTION #746, and the mysterious time jumps may be coming to a close. Of course, maybe we're just leading up to another mystery! Stuart Immonen and José Marzan, Jr. aren't sayin' till you check out the issue in thirty-five days!

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Figuring out what's on this cover isn't much of a puzzler, but Stuart Immonen, José Marzan, Jr. and Patrick Martin gave us such a cool image we couldn't help going to pieces over it!

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